

### **Empirical Molecular Formula Worksheet Answer Key PDF**

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#### Part 1: Building a Foundation

#### What is the empirical formula?

undefined. A) The actual number of atoms in a molecule

undefined. B) The simplest whole-number ratio of elements in a compound ✓

undefined. C) The mass of a compound

undefined. D) The chemical symbol of an element

The empirical formula is the simplest whole-number ratio of elements in a compound.

#### Which of the following are needed to determine an empirical formula?

undefined. A) Percentage composition of each element ✓

undefined. B) Molecular weight of the compound ✓

undefined. C) Atomic masses of the elements ✓

undefined. D) The color of the compound

To determine an empirical formula, you need the percentage composition of each element, atomic masses, and sometimes molecular weight.

#### Explain the difference between an empirical formula and a molecular formula.

An empirical formula represents the simplest ratio of elements, while a molecular formula shows the actual number of atoms of each element in a molecule.

#### List the steps required to calculate an empirical formula from percentage composition.

Step 1

Convert percentage to grams.

2. Step 2

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Convert grams to moles.

3. Step 3

Divide by the smallest number of moles.

4. Step 4

Write the empirical formula.

The steps include converting percentages to grams, converting grams to moles, finding the simplest mole ratio, and writing the empirical formula.

#### Part 2: Comprehension and Application

### If a compound has an empirical formula of CH2O and a molecular weight of 180 g/mol, what is the molecular formula?

undefined. A) CH2O

undefined. B) C2H4O2 ✓

undefined. C) C6H12O6

undefined. D) C3H6O3

The molecular formula can be determined by finding the multiple of the empirical formula that matches the molecular weight.

#### Which statements are true about empirical formulas?

undefined. A) They always match the molecular formula.

undefined. B) They are the simplest ratio of elements. ✓

undefined. C) They can be used to determine molecular formulas. ✓

undefined. D) They provide the exact number of atoms in a molecule.

Empirical formulas are the simplest ratio of elements and can be used to determine molecular formulas, but they do not always match the molecular formula.

# Describe how the empirical formula can be used to determine the molecular formula when the molecular weight is known.

The empirical formula can be multiplied by a whole number to obtain the molecular formula, based on the ratio of the molecular weight to the empirical formula weight.



## A compound is found to contain 40% carbon, 6.71% hydrogen, and 53.29% oxygen by mass. What is its empirical formula?

undefined. A) CHO

undefined. B) C2H4O2 ✓

undefined. C) CH2O

undefined. D) C3H6O3

The empirical formula can be determined by calculating the mole ratio of the elements based on their percentages.

### A compound has an empirical formula of NH2 and a molecular weight of 32 g/mol. Determine its molecular formula.

The molecular formula can be determined by calculating the ratio of the molecular weight to the empirical formula weight.

#### Part 3: Analysis, Evaluation, and Creation

#### Which of the following best describes the relationship between empirical and molecular formulas?

undefined. A) They are always identical.

undefined. B) The molecular formula is a multiple of the empirical formula. ✓

undefined. C) The empirical formula is a multiple of the molecular formula.

undefined. D) They have no relationship.

The molecular formula is a multiple of the empirical formula, representing the actual number of atoms in a molecule.

### Analyze the following scenarios and identify which would affect the determination of an empirical formula.

undefined. A) Incorrect atomic masses used in calculations  $\checkmark$ 

undefined. B) Incorrect percentage composition data ✓

undefined. C) Presence of impurities in the sample ✓

undefined. D) Accurate molecular weight measurement



Incorrect atomic masses, percentage composition data, and impurities can all affect the determination of an empirical formula.

## Discuss how errors in measuring the percentage composition of elements could impact the calculation of an empirical formula.

Errors in measuring percentage composition can lead to incorrect mole ratios, resulting in an inaccurate empirical formula.

### A student calculated an empirical formula as C2H5O. If the molecular weight is 90 g/mol, what is the correct molecular formula?

undefined. A) C2H5O

undefined. B) C4H10O2 ✓

undefined. C) C3H6O3

undefined. D) C6H15O3

The correct molecular formula can be determined by calculating the ratio of the molecular weight to the empirical formula weight.

## Evaluate the following statements and identify which are true about the importance of empirical formulas in chemistry.

undefined. A) They help in identifying unknown compounds. ✓

undefined. B) They are crucial for determining molecular structures. ✓

undefined. C) They are used in balancing chemical equations. ✓

undefined. D) They are irrelevant for organic compounds.

Empirical formulas are important for identifying unknown compounds, determining molecular structures, and balancing chemical equations.

## Propose a method to experimentally determine the empirical formula of a new compound, including the steps and equipment you would use.

To determine the empirical formula, one would conduct combustion analysis, measure the masses of products, and calculate the ratios of elements.